

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/821,172

Examiner

Javid A Amini

Applicant(s)

HIGGINS ET AL.

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2672

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to July 19, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16, 18-21 and 23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 08/13/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Javid A Amini  
Examiner  
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### Examiner's Amendment

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Anthony J. Lombardi on 10/29/2004.

The following (independent claims 1, 18, 20 and 23) are the proposed claim amendments:

#### Claim 1.

A system for automatically manipulating or annotating a second map when a first map is manipulated or annotated, the second map being geographically substantially similar to the first map, the system comprising;

a map display;

a map processing platform in communication with the map display, wherein said map processing platform is adapted to;

receive a user annotation at a first location on [a] the first map; expressed by first map coordinates;

convert from the first map coordinates to corresponding geographic coordinates [associate the user annotation with a set of first map coordinates] using a georeferencing function of the first map;

convert from the geographic coordinates to corresponding second map coordinates [associate the set of first map coordinates with a set of second map coordinates] using a georeferencing function of the second map: and

display the user [an] annotation on the second map at the second map coordinates; [update the second map with the user annotation at a location on the second map that corresponds to said the first location;]

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a storage platform coupled to the map processing platform; and

a user interaction device coupled to the map processing platform.

**Claim 18.**

A method of correlating a map annotation from a first map to a second map, the second map

being geographically substantially similar to the first map, the method comprising;

detecting an annotation entry on the first map expressed by first map coordinates; [associating the annotation entry with a set of first map coordinates] using a georeferencing function of the first map;

converting from the geographic coordinates to corresponding second map coordinates

[associating the set of first map coordinates with a set of second map coordinates] using a georeferencing function of the second map; and

displaying the annotation entry on the second map at the second map coordinates. [upon

detecting the [a second] annotation entry, enabling display of the annotation entry on the second map.]

**Claim 20.**

A computer to perform a method of correlating a map annotation between a first map and a second map, the second map being geographically substantially similar to the first map, the method comprising:

detecting an annotation entry on the first map expressed by first map coordinates;

converting from the first map coordinates to corresponding geographic coordinates [associating

the annotation entry with a set of first map coordinates] using a georeferencing function of the first map;

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convert from the geographic coordinates to corresponding second map coordinates [associating the set of first map coordinates with a set of second map coordinates] using a georeferencing function of the second map; and

displaying the annotation entry on the second map at the second map coordinates.[upon detecting a second annotation entry, enabling display of the annotation entry on the second map.]

**Claim 23.**

A method for automatically annotating a second map when a first map is annotated, the second map being geographically substantially similar to the first map, the method comprising:

receiving an annotation on [a] the first map;

determining a location of the annotation on the first map using a coordinate system of the first map;

converting the location to longitude and latitude using a georeferencing function of the first map;

determining a corresponding location on the second map based on the longitude and latitude using a georeferencing function of the second map; and

displaying the [a second] annotation on the second map at the corresponding location.

**Allowance**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reasons are as follows:

The second map being geographically substantially similar to the first map and displaying the same annotation entry from the first map on the second map coordinates.

1. New number assigned to claims 1-16, 18-21 and 23 are:

New number	Old number	Type of claim
1	1	Independent
2	2	Dependent
3	3	Dependent
4	4	Dependent
5	5	Dependent
6	6	Dependent
7	7	Dependent
8	8	Dependent
9	9	Dependent
10	10	Dependent
11	11	Dependent
12	12	Dependent
13	13	Dependent

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14	14	Dependent
15	15	Dependent
16	16	Dependent
17	18	Independent
18	19	Dependent
19	20	Independent
20	21	Dependent
21	23	Independent

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javid A Amini whose telephone number is 703-605-4248. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

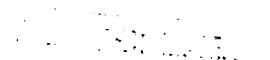
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on 703-305-4713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Examiner  
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Javid Amini

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey A. Brier in black ink.A faint, rectangular stamp or seal, likely an official USPTO mark, located below the signature.